

Mill Brook Study Group Meeting Summary

Date: Monday, February 4, 2019

Time: 8:30am

Location: Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room

Attendees: Amber Christofferson, Ali Carter, Erin Zwirko, Emily Sullivan, Stacey

Mulroy, Ellen Cohen, Ann LeRoyer, Bill Copithorne, Kelly Lynema

Introductions and Overview:

After a welcome and a round of introductions, Kelly reviewed what was discussed in the December meeting and the work that has been done since to update the working draft of the Mill Brook Corridor Report. Since December, Ann has provided a number of revisions to the contents of the report, and Kelly met with staff from Transportation, Economic Development, Conservation, and Engineering to review the recommendations in the report, added maps and other graphics to the draft, and reorganized the recommendations section to call attention to ongoing, near-term, and mid-term priorities on which the town can take independent action.

Group Discussion:

The group reviewed the revised recommendations by level of priority, spending additional time reviewing the long-term recommendations by topical area. Changes that will be made to the next version are the following:

Ongoing priorities

- Add bullet point to address leveraging Conservation Commission permitting process to compel private property owner actions
- Add bullet point to address implementation of Mill Brook Corridor Design Guidelines by the ARB
- Add bullet point to address ongoing implementation of the Historic Districts Commission's design guidelines

Near-term priorities

- Add information about MVP to Phase 1 of the Wellington Park/Mill Brook Corridor priority
- Add bullet point for Town building projects, moving up 51 Grove Street to nearterm priorities and addressing the High School planning project in this same section

Mid-term priorities

- Expand bullet on MVP to include other areas outside of Hurd Field

Long-term priorities

- Environment/Ecosystem Management
 - Minor text edits to bullets 1 and 3
- Flood Control
 - In the first bullet, condense note on sections 2, 3, and 6 into an action addressing all sections
 - Minor text edits to bullet 4
 - Under bullet 4, add text referring to the mid-term priority for reviewing the town's stormwater bylaw; cross-reference

- Recreation

- Delete the first bullet; add text for section 5 under the second bullet
- Add text from Amber addressing work on walking paths for all sections under the second bullet
- Combine third and fourth bullets into one section addressing seating and other amenities
- Add an action for section 1 on the last bullet addressing play areas at the Reservoir; cross reference with Reservoir Master Plan

- Economic Development

- Add in section under third bullet for using Brigham's redevelopment as a demonstration project for other development projects in section 5
- Combine sections 1 and 2 on fourth bullet

- Transportation

- Maintain specificity around transportation connections between the Mill Brook Corridor and the Minuteman Bikeway.
- Add recommendations regarding connections between MBTA Bus Station and connections at Prentiss Road/Dudley Street Place/Grove Street back in, but acknowledge difficulties in improving connectivity at these points.

Historical Context

No changes

Placemaking

- Under second bullet, change note addressing sections 2 through 4 to "All";
 delete actions for sections 6 and 7.
- Cross reference with near- and mid-term priorities
- o Ali will connect with Emily regarding signage at Wellington Park
- Under fourth bullet, combine items addressing historic/wayfinding signage and educational programs in multiple sections into "All"

Recommendations for property owners

No changes

Next Steps:

Kelly will make revisions to the report as described above and share with the group. Ann will share images with DPCD should the group decide to add more visuals to the report. Once the report is finalized, it will be passed on to the Master Plan Implementation Committee and possibly presented to residents at a public forum.

Kelly will send an email to the group with a Doodle poll for a next meeting (to be held in early March). At the next meeting, the group will review the report and decide on whether a public forum should be held to present the final report and accompanying action steps. Erin and Kelly will bring ideas for how to promote the plan to the next meeting.